# Lightning NO Production in the GMI Model

Kenneth E. Pickering
Dale J. Allen

Department of Meteorology
University of Maryland
College Park, MD

## Outline

- Current procedure in GMI model
- Necessity of co-locating lightning NO with convective transport
- Parameterization development for GMI
- Implementation and Results

# Current Procedure

- Climatological monthly spatial distributions of total (CG+IC) lightning flashes (Price et al., 1997) based on ISCCP deep convective cloud top heights (Price and Rind, 1992).
- CG fraction based on cold cloud depth (Price and Rind, 1993)
- $P_{CG} = 10 P_{IC}$ ;  $P_{CG} = 6.7 \times 10^{26}$  molec/flash or ~1100 moles/flash (Price et al., 1997)
- Grid cell NO production values scaled such that global production equals a specified value (e.g., 5 TgN/yr)
- Vertically distributed according to C-shape profiles derived from cloud-resolving model simulations of Pickering et al. (1998)

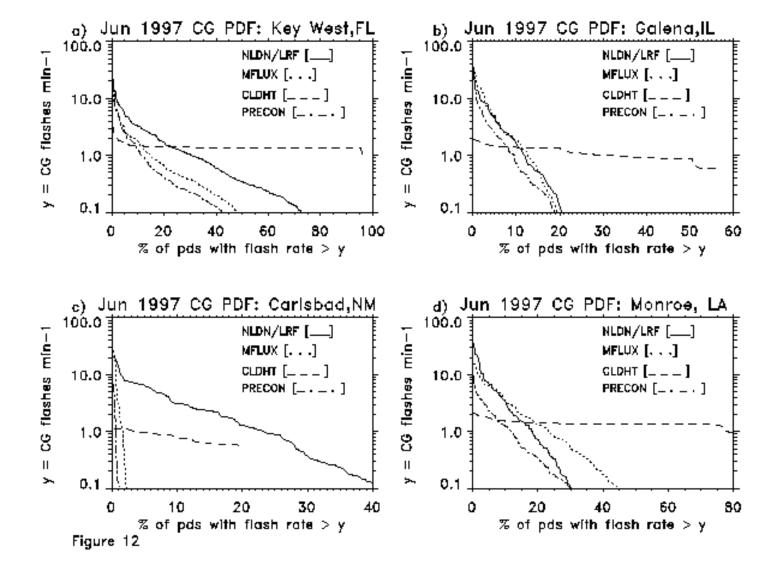
# Lightning NO and Convective Transport

- Use of climatological lightning NO production results in lightning NO not being injected into the model at same times and locations as at which the model convective transport occurs
- Therefore, lightning NO and convectivelytransported species (HO<sub>x</sub> precursors, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, NMHC) are introduced to the upper troposphere in different locations
- Results in "fuzzy" middle and upper tropospheric chemistry
- Lightning and convection need to be co-located!

## **Available Parameterizations**

# LIGHTNING FLASH RATES MUST BE PARAMETERIZED IN TERMS OF VARIABLES FROM THE MODEL CONVECTIVE SCHEME

- Cloud-height-based approach
   Price and Rind (1992)
- Cloud-mass flux based approach
  Allen and Pickering (2002)
- Convective precipitation based approach Allen and Pickering (2002)



#### 1997 Flash rate comparison

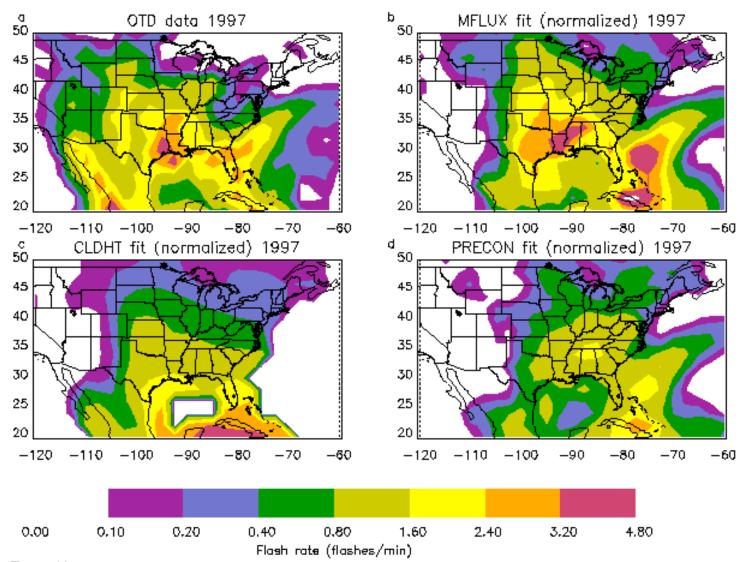


Figure 11

# Other Changes

Evidence is mounting that refutes the assumption that

$$P_{CG} = 10 P_{IC}$$
. We are now assuming

$$P_{CG} \sim P_{IC}$$
.

Storm	$\underline{P}_{IC}/\underline{P}_{CG}$	
STERAO - 7/12	0.75-1.0	DeCaria et al.(2000, 2004)
STERAO – 7/10	0.6	Ott et al. (2004)
EULINOX – 7/21	1.0	Ott et al. (2002)
	1.4	Fehr et al. (2004)
CRYSTAL-FACE		
7/29	0.5-1.0	Ott et al. (2004)
7/16	1.0	Ott et al. (2004)

# Other Changes

Estimates of IC/CG flash ratio not necessary.

Boccippio et al. (2002) analysis of IC/CG ratio over U.S. based on OTD and NLDN indicates that storm intensity, morphology, and level of organization have much more impact on IC/CG ratios than environmental variables that can be extracted from GCM output.

CG flashes estimated from cloud mass fluxes will be scaled up to total flashes based on OTD/LIS climatology.

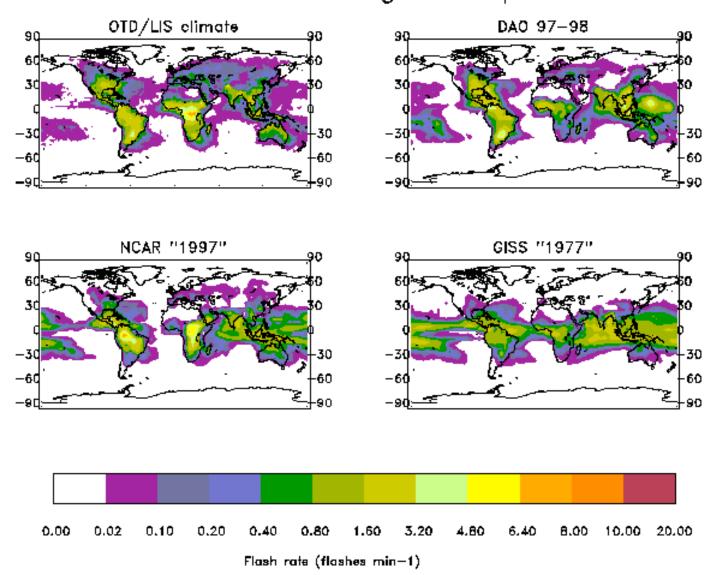
# Step 1: Polynomial construction

- Data: NLDN/LRF 6-hr avg 4° x 5° CG flash rates for 1997
- **Model output**: Convective mass flux (CLDMAS) at 0, 6, 12, +18 UT
- i=1: GMAO analyzed fields at ~353 hPa for Mar-Dec '97, Jan-Feb '98
- i=2: NCAR GCM-fields at ~369 hPa for "1997"
- i=3: GISS GCM-fields at ~504 hPa for "1977"
  - (374 hPa CLDMAS considered for GISS; (too few mid-latitude clouds)
- Geographic Region: 10°-60°N; 120°-60°W

### Polynomial fit to normalized CLDMAS

- 1. For 10°-60°N, 120°-60°W, extract 00, 06, 12, and 18 UT time-averaged CLDMAS at model-specific pressure levels
- 2. Normalize CLDMAS by dividing by model-dependent mean(CLDMAS)+2\*sigma(CLDMAS)
- $x_i = CLDMAS_i / [mean(CLDMAS_i) + 2*sigma(CLDMAS_i)]$
- y = NLDN/LRF CG flash rates
- 3. For i=1,3 do sort  $x_i$  and y independently by magnitude
- 4. For i=1,3 do fit polynomial  $(y_{fit} = ax_i + b[x_i]^2 + c[x_i]^3)$
- 5. Adjust  $y_{fit}$  for area of grid box; Constrain to be  $\ge 0$

#### GMI flash rates before regional adjustments

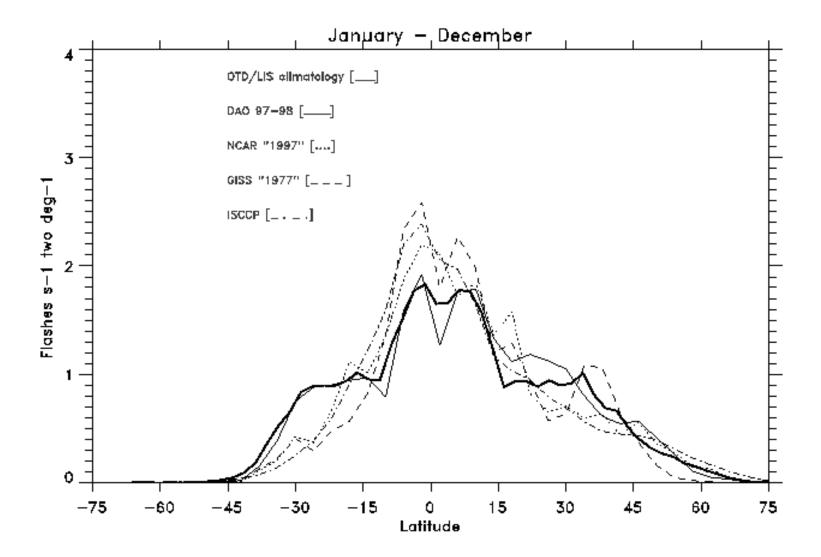


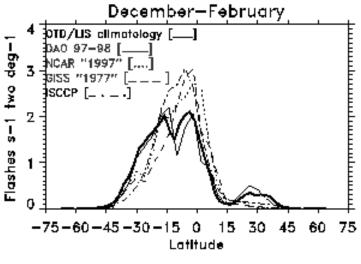
# Step 2: Adjust flash rates to best match OTD/LIS climatology

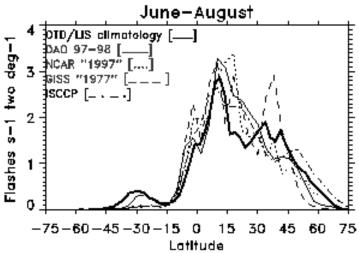
Marine-continental contrast not captured especially in the tropics.

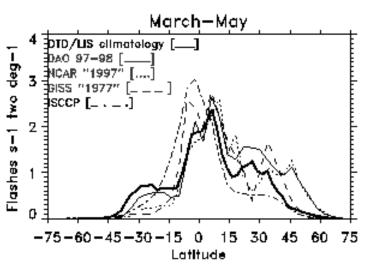
For i=1,3 do

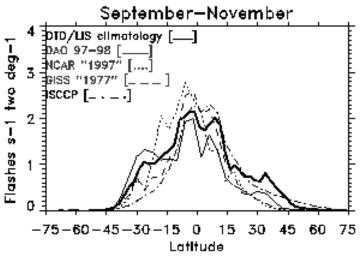
- 1. Adjust global CG flash rates so that the annual average total global flash rate matches observed total flash rate from v1.0 OTD/LIS climatology (46.6 flashes s<sup>-1</sup>) [see previous plot]
- 2. Reduce tropical marine flash rates to best match climatology
- 3. Increase tropical continental flash rates to best match climatology
- 4. Adjust midlatitude continental flash rates to best match climatology
- 5. Constrain flash rates to be < 100 flashes/min based on obs.
- 6. Adjust global flash rates to match climatology

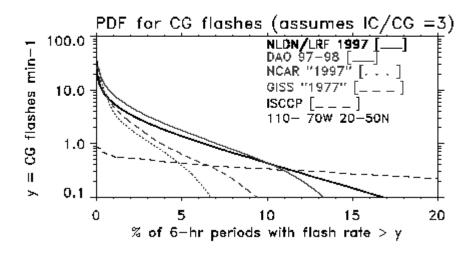


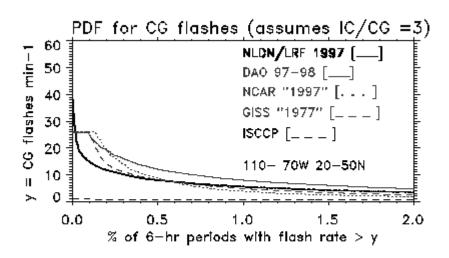




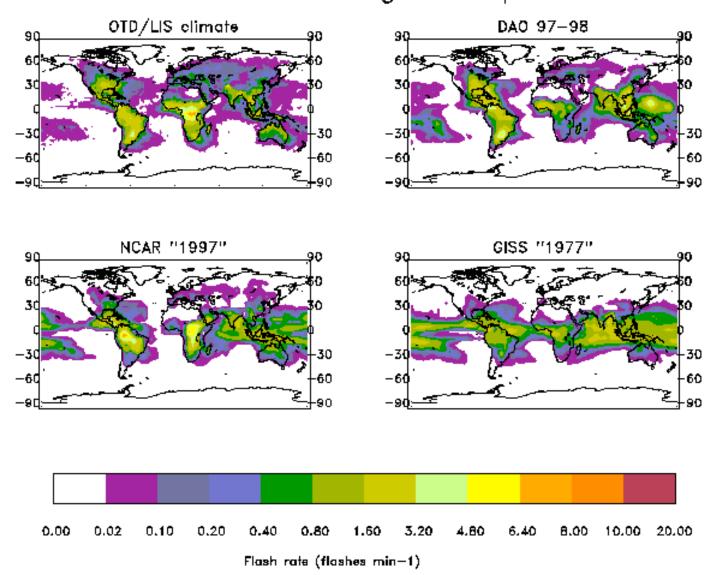




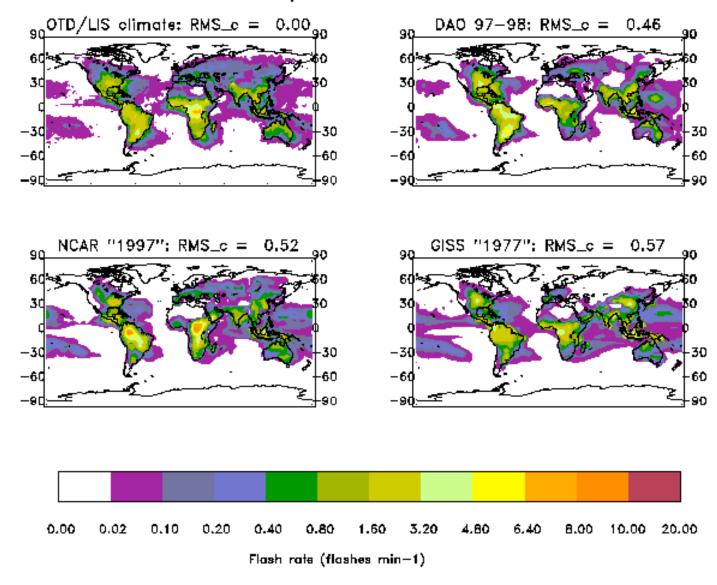




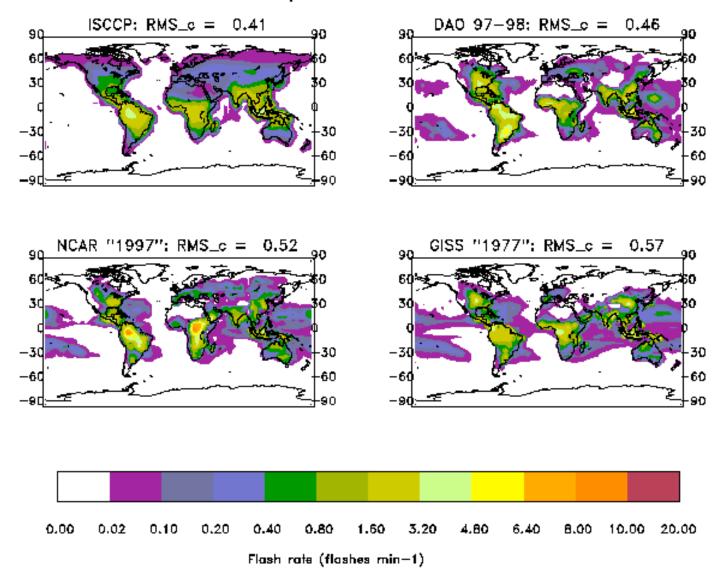
#### GMI flash rates before regional adjustments



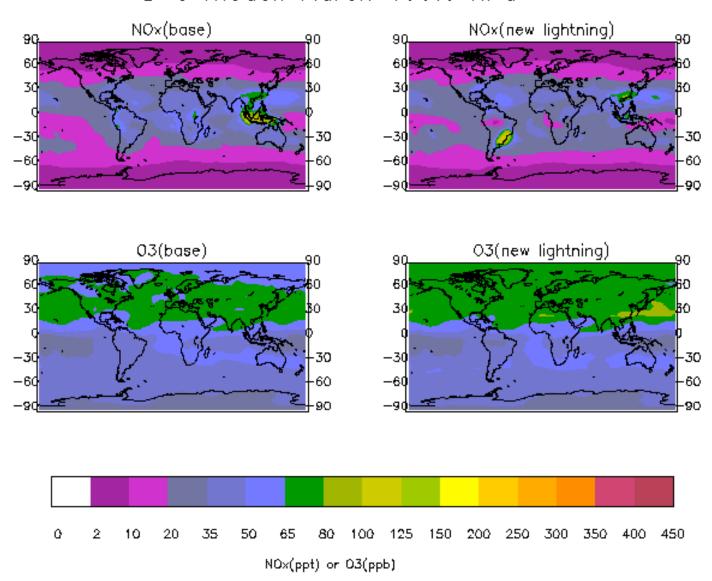
#### January — December



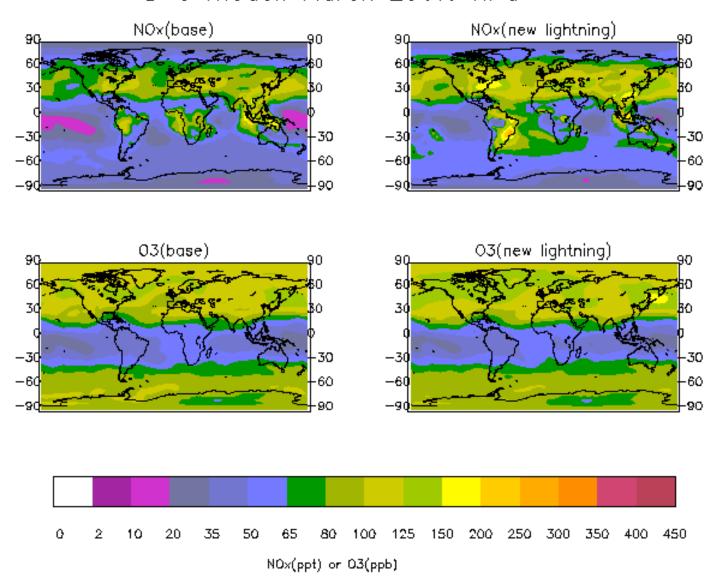
#### January — December



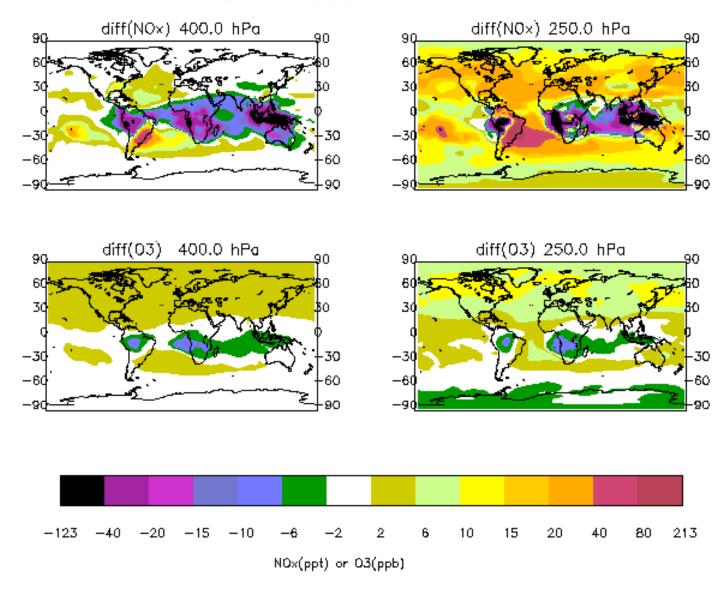
#### DAO model: March 400.0 hPa



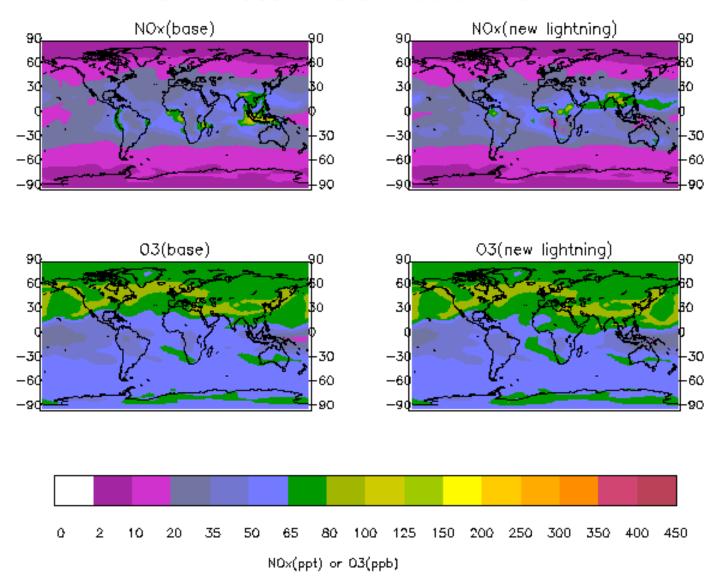
#### DAO model: March 250.0 hPa



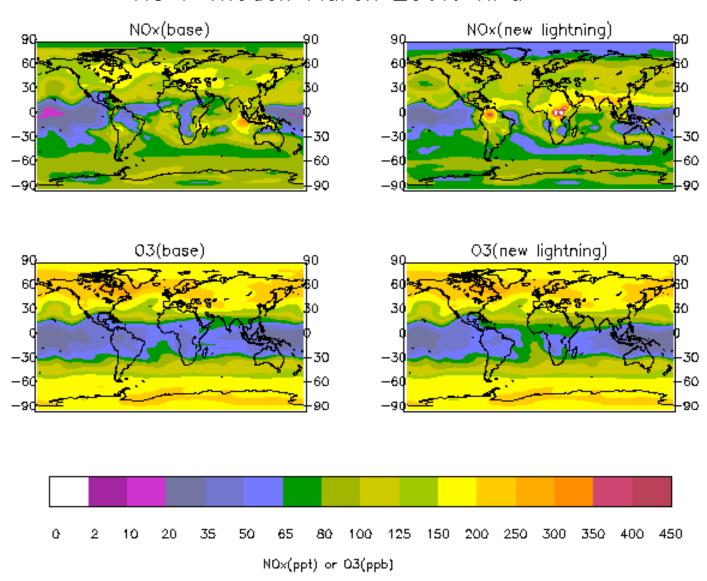
#### DAO model: March



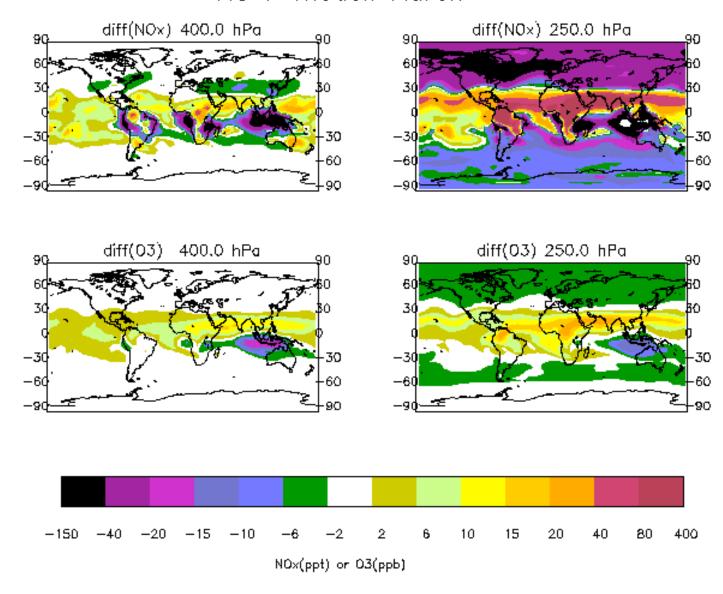
#### NCAR model: March 400.0 hPa



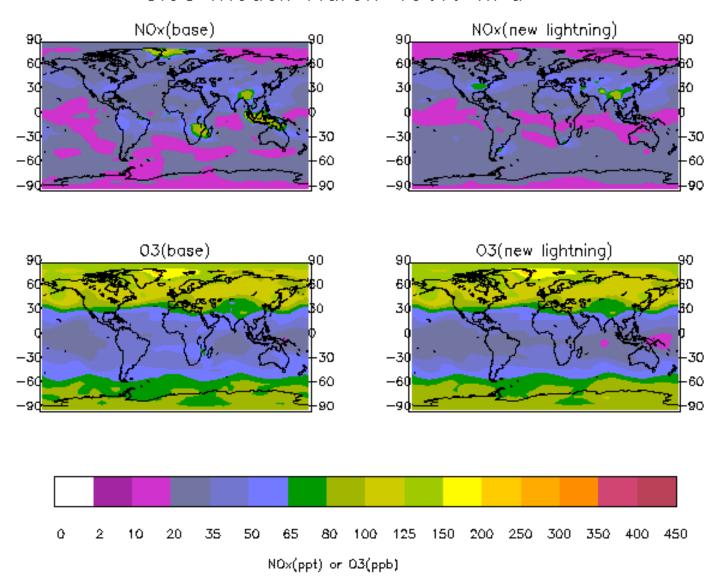
#### NCAR model: March 250.0 hPa



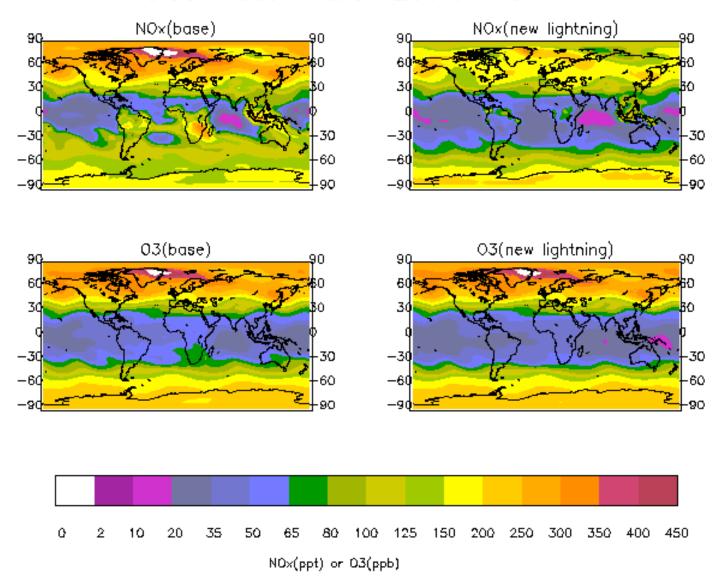
#### NCAR model: March



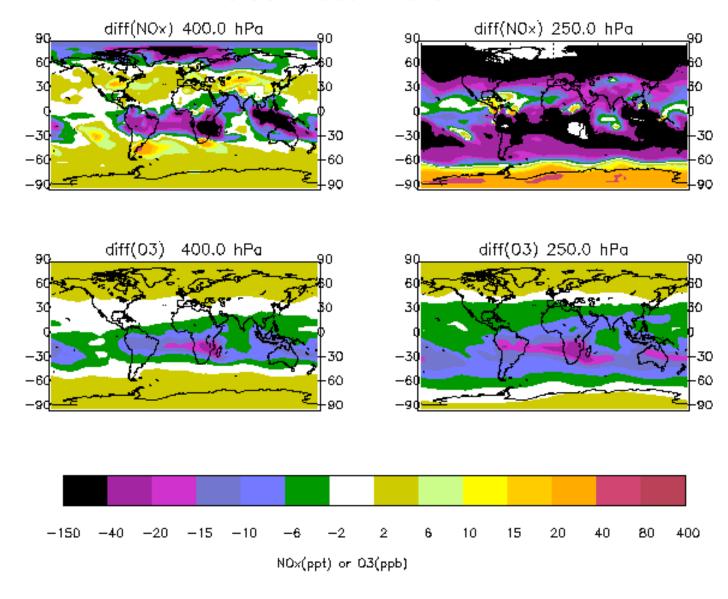
#### GISS model: March 400.0 hPa



#### GISS model: March 250.0 hPa



#### GISS model: March



# Summary

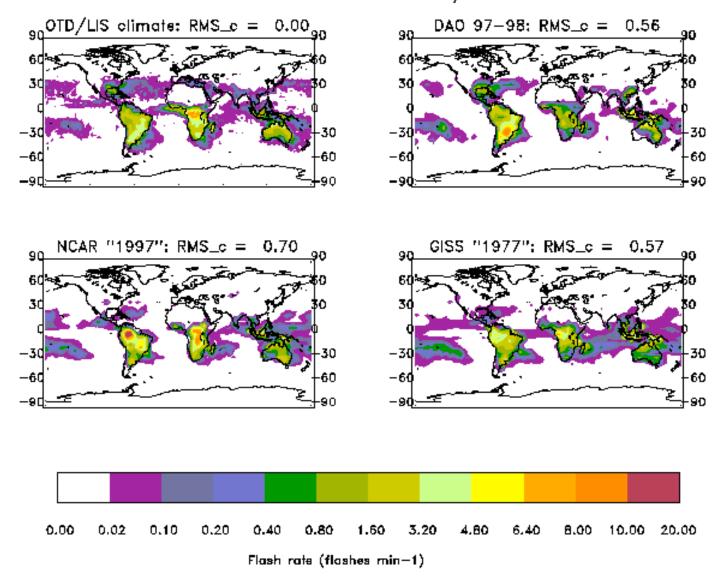
- Relationship between NLDN/LRF and normalized CLDMAS was used to derive lightning parameterizations for each of the three met. fields used by GMI.
- Flash rates at tropical marine locations were too high (normalized so that tropical marine/tropical continental flash rate ratio matches observations).
- Resulting flash rate data sets were normalized to match v1.0 LIS/OTD annual average climatological flash rate
- Test run of GMI model with three sets of met. fields for January-March with 5 TgN/yr from lightning.

# Summary

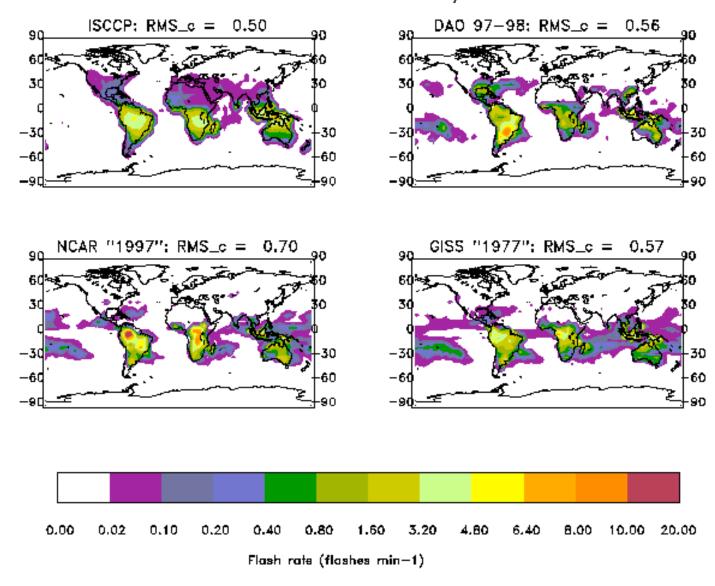
#### PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- DAO: larger upper tropospheric NO<sub>x</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios in mid latitudes and smaller in tropics compared with ISCCP-based climatological lightning.
- NCAR: relatively small differences at 400 hPa; larger differences at 250 hPa, with slightly less NO<sub>x</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> at mid and high lat. and more in tropics.
- GISS: large reductions of NO<sub>x</sub> at high N latitudes and in SH tropics at 250 hPa; less ozone in tropics and midlatitudes

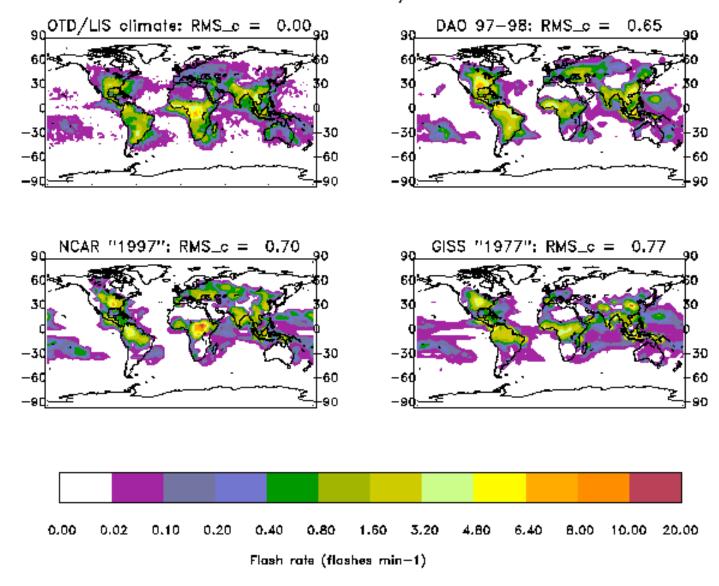
#### December-February



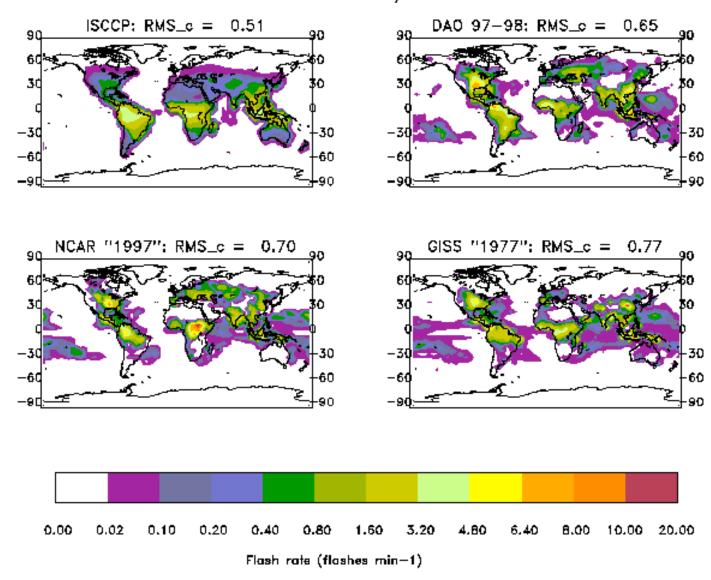
#### December-February



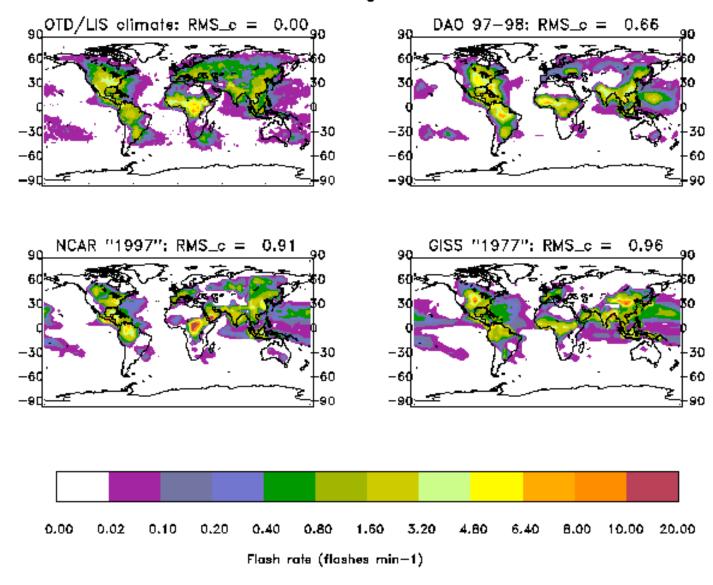
#### March-May



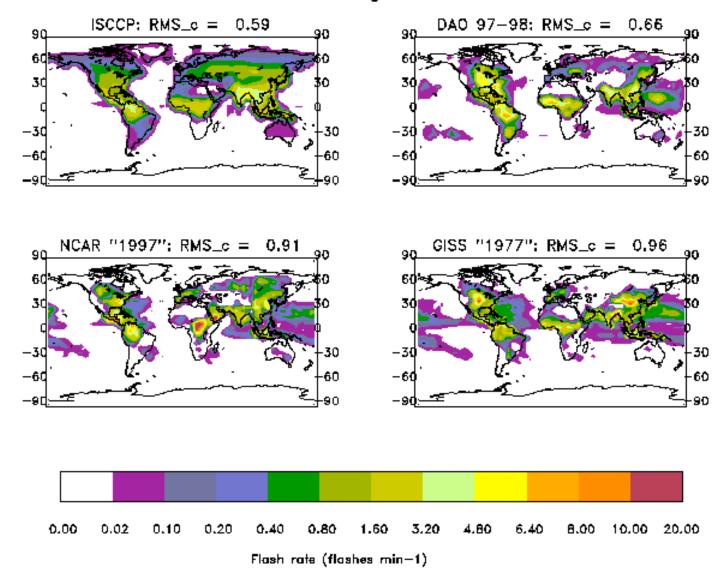
#### March-May



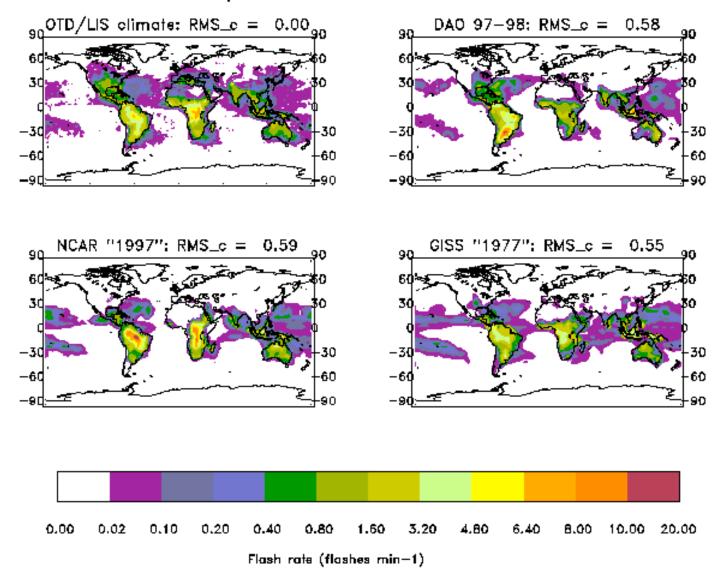
#### June-August



#### June-August



#### September-November



#### September-November

